MEDIA RELEASE

6 NOVEMBER 2013

SAFE DESIGN DISPLAY HOME UNVEILED AT THE PONDS

Attorney General Greg Smith SC today unveiled a display home in Sydney’s northwest that is a burglar’s worst nightmare.

The Safe Design Home, which is the result of a collaboration between the Department of Attorney General and Justice and UrbanGrowth NSW, will be on display for three years at The Ponds Display Village.

“The design demonstrates that you don’t need to build a steel fortress or have access to expensive state-of-the-art technology in order to have a safe home,” Mr Smith said.

Minister for Planning and Infrastructure Brad Hazzard said the Safe Design Home was packed with affordable, easy to install and aesthetically pleasing security features.

“Whether you are building, renovating, or just looking for ways of improving the safety of your house, a tour of the Safe Design Home will provide plenty of great ideas,” Mr Hazzard said.

Mr Smith said the home had been designed to send a message to burglars to look elsewhere.

“Burglars don’t want to be seen or heard when they are committing crime, but approaching the Safe Design House by stealth would be extremely difficult,” Mr Smith said.

“The gravel on the driveway makes a crunching sound underfoot, the landscape design leaves nowhere to hide and the sensor lights give a visual indication of when someone is approaching the house.

“Any attempts to force entry would activate a back-to-base alarm that would identify the burglar’s exact location.”

The most frequently-used areas of the Safe Design Home are street-facing to give residents greater awareness of what is happening in their neighbourhood. Large glazed windows at the front and rear of the property also increase sightlines.

“The glazed security glass is resistant to significant impact and will not shatter if broken, making it even harder for intruders to gain forced entry,” Mr Smith said.
With many break and enters occurring during the day, Mr Smith said establishing a home office was another way of deterring burglars.

“As not everyone has the luxury of being able to work from home, it also a good idea to get to know your neighbours so you can keep an eye out for each other,” Mr Smith said.

“When you are away, ask a trusted neighbour to bring in your bins, collect your mail and water your garden – this will remove signs that you are not home.”

The Safe Design Home, which was built by Eden Brae Homes, is located on the corner of Riverbank Drive and Tomah Crescent at The Ponds. It is open from 10am to 5pm seven days a week.

“Home to 7,500 residents, The Ponds is the fastest growing master planned community in NSW and is the ideal location for showcasing to families how to incorporate safety features into their new homes,” said Carmen Osborne, Development Director from UrbanGrowth NSW.

“While the Safe Design Home contains clever design features and many of the latest security products, it also highlights the importance of simple measures such as installing secure fencing, keyed window locks, deadlocks on doors and security screens.”

For further information visit www.landcom.com.au or call 02 9391 298.